

Message Text

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PASS: WILLIAM CORCORAN
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION AND SOLAR APPLICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
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E.O. 11652: N/A
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SUBJECT: ICSWG TRIP REPORT

REF: STATE 141347

NIGERIA

(1) NIGERIA APPEARS TO NEED MORE BASIC SERVICES SUCH AS SANITATION,
WATER, TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION THAN ALTERNATE ENERGY
SOURCES FOR ITS OIL, GAS AND COAL RESOURCES.

(2) THE PERMANENT SECRETARY OF MINES AND POWER GON, EXPRESSED
INTEREST IN SOLAR ENERGY AND A DESIRE TO HAVE A U.S.-NIGERIA
DEMONSTRATION UNIT.

(3) NIGERIAN ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY NOT INTERESTED IN SOLAR
ENERGY. PROVIDING POWER FOR VILLAGES GREATER THAN SIXTY
KILOMETERS FROM NEPA TRANSMISSION IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF
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STATE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION BOARD.

(4) A STRONG, ACTIVE PROPONENT FOR SOLAR ENERGY WAS NOT MET.
SOLAR RESEARCH BY ADNUBI AND AKINSETA AT UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS
APPEARS ON DECLINE; UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN AND UNIV. IFOFE MAY BE MORE
ACTIVE BUT ATTEMPTED VISIT WAS ABORTED.

5. GON HAS TENDER DUE JULY 10, FOR A SIX MONTH STUDY OF ENERGY NEEDS AND SUPPLY INCLUDING SOLAR, FOR A NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY, AN IMPORTANT, POSITIVE STEP.

(6) NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY SPONSORS SOME SOLAR PROJECTS AND PLANS TO STUDY SOLAR APPLICATIONS WITHIN NEXT TWO YEARS.

NOT AS INTERESTED IN RESEARCH AS PURCHASING DEVICES FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, AND LEARNING HOW TO FABRICATE WITH LOCAL MATERIALS AND LABOR FOR RURAL APPLICATIONS.

NIGER

(1) NIGER HAS THE STRONGEST, MOST POSITIVE SOLAR ENERGY PROGRAM OF THE SUB-SAHELIAN COUNTRIES VISITED.

(2) A WELL-EQUIPPED, SMALL RESEARCH LABORATORY ON SOLAR ENERGY, INCLUDES DISTILLATIONS, SOLARCOOKERS, WATERHEATERS, WATER PUMPS, SOLAR CONCENTRATORS AND SOLAR RADIATION MEASUREMENTS.

(3) CONDUCTS A THREE-MONTH POST GRADUATE SOLAR SEMINAR FOR OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES. THE ICSWG TEAM MET AND DISCUSSED SOLAR POTENTIALS WITH THE CLASS OF TWELVE FROM SEVEN COUNTRIES (INCLUDING TWO FROM NIGER AND ONE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN.)

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(4) A MODERN, WELL EQUIPPED FACTORY PRODUCES ABOUT SEVEN SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEMS DAILY BUT HAS THE CAPACITY TO QUADRUPLE PRODUCTION IF DEMAND INCREASES.

(5) NIAMEY HAS ANUMBER OF SOLAR HOT WATER HEATERS IN OPERATION AND A SUCCESSFUL JOINT FRENCH-NIGER SOLAR WATER PUMPING DEMONSTRATION UNIT IS TEN KILOMETERS FROM THE CITY. THE CITY ALSO HAS A P.V. TELEVISION UNIT.

(6) ALTHOUGH THE GON PROVIDES A MONETARY INCENTIVE, ONLY MIDDLE CLASS WORKERS (MOSTLY IN GOVERNMENT) CAN AFFORD THE \$800 HOT WATER SYSTEMS.

SUMMARY: GOOD OPPORTUNITIES EXIST FOR SOLAR POWER IN NIGERIA AND NIGER WITH THE GREATEST NEED IN THE LATTER; HOWEVER, THE RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS AND FOREIGN AID MUST UNDERWRITE THE COST TO EXPAND THE USE OF SOLAR ENERGY.
STEARNS

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